



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
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Director

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1365

DATE: March 3, 2014

TO: Iowa Medicaid Hospitals

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Payment Program and Meaningful Use Attestation Updates

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

On February 7, 2014, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that it would be offering assistance to hospitals that may have experienced difficulty attesting by the original November 30, 2013, deadline. CMS is offering a chance for hospitals to submit their meaningful use (MU) attestations retroactively. Since the Medicare EHR incentive payment program for hospitals operates on the fiscal year, the most recent period to meet the benchmarks ended September 30, 2013. Described by CMS as a “one-time opportunity,” hospitals, can avoid the 2015 payment adjustments and still receive payment under the program.

Dually eligible hospitals must first meet MU under the Medicare EHR Incentive program before attesting to receive a Medicaid Incentive payment. Iowa Medicaid will also be allowing eligible hospitals the opportunity to attest to receive their 2013 Medicaid EHR incentive payment retroactively. In order to be considered for an extension the hospital must complete the two step process below.

Step 1: Medicare Attestation

Eligible hospitals must first work directly with CMS to complete their Medicare MU attestations. CMS has issued the following requirements that must be completed in order to be considered for this extension:

1. Send the following information to EH2013Extension@Provider-Resources.com no later than 11:59 PM EST on March 15, 2014:
 - o CCN
 - o Hospital Name
 - o Contact Person Name
 - o Contact Person Email
 - o Contact Person Phone
2. Type “**EH 2013 EXTENSION**” in the subject line on the email.
3. Each hospital must be identified in a separate email.

4. CMS will contact the person designated in your request and provide them additional instructions regarding the Eligible Hospital 2013 attestation submission.

Step 2: Medicaid EHR Incentive Attestation

Upon completion of the CMS requirements and successful attestation for MU with the Medicare EHR Incentive Program, eligible hospitals will be allowed the opportunity to attest with the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program to receive their 2013 Medicaid incentive. Hospitals must attest with the state within 30 days of the the date that their MU data file has been received from CMS.

Medicaid EHR Incentive attestation should be completed using the [Iowa EHR Medicaid Incentive Payment Administration](#)¹ portal.

If you have any questions, please contact Tanya McAninch at 515-974-3123 or Deb Hebl at 515-974-3161. Please send email questions to imeincentives@dhs.state.ia.us.

¹ <https://www.imeincentives.com/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>